

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 COME-00 ACDA-07
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01
DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SAL-01 FEA-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /121 R

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L/EUR - GANTZ
ARA/CAR - PALAZZOLO
COMM/NOAA - B. KEITH (SUBS)

----- 097735 /71

O R 222115Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, EEC, PLOS, FR

SUBJECT: US SHRIMP FISHERY OFF FRENCH GUIANA

REF: BRUSSELS 12568

1. IN RESPONSE PARAGRAPH 2 REFTEL, DEPT. HAS OBTAINED
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FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON US FISHERY OFF FRENCH GUIANA:
(A) IN 1976 APPROXIMATELY 135 US FLAG VESSELS OPERATED
IN AREA. 36 OF THESE VESSELS WERE BASED IN FRENCH
GUIANA, ACCORDING TO ARRANGEMENTS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
THESE VESSELS ARE ALL SHRIMP TRAWLERS; THERE ARE 3 MAIN
SPECIES OF SHRIMP WHICH ARE TAKEN OFF FRENCH GUIANA. TOTAL

US CATCH FLUCTATES WIDELY FROM YEAR TO YEAR, RANGING FROM 2-5 MILLION POUNDS.

(B) US BOATS FISH THROUGHOUT YEAR; FISHING IS PARTICULARLY HEAVY OFF FRENCH GUIANA EARLY IN YEAR, BEGINNING IN JANUARY.

2. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH COMMISSION ON DECEMBER 13-14, US NEGOTIATING TEAM UNDERSTOOD THAT EC CONSIDERED THAT NEGOTIATIONS OF AGREEMENT WITH THE EC REGARDING US FISHING IN CONSERVATION FISHERY ZONE HAD BEEN FORMALLY INITIATED SO THAT WE WOULD BE ON RECORD BEFORE JANUARY 1. HOWEVER, IF IT IS NOT COMPLETELY CLEAR THAT NEGOTIATIONS

HAVE BEEN OPENED, MISSION AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER FORMAL NOTE TO THIS EFFECT. DEPT. SUGGESTS FOLLOWING AS TEXT OF NOTE:

IT IS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INTENDS TO EXTEND ITS JURISDICTION OVER FISHERIES OUT TO 200 MILES BEGINNING JANUARY 1. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES UNDERSTANDS FURTHER THAT AMONG THE AREAS WHICH WILL BE INCLUDED IN THIS EXTENSION OF JURISDICTION ARE WATERS OFF FRENCH GUIANA, WHERE US FLAG VESSELS HAVE BEEN FISHING FOR SHRIMP FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. IN LIGHT OF THIS SITUATION, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES REQUESTS THE INITIATION OF FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF FISHERIES AGREEMENT RELATING TO US FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA, AS WELL AS IN OTHER AREAS WHERE US FISHERMEN MAY OPERATE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INDICATED DURING DISCUSSIONS ON THIS QUESTION IN BRUSSELS DECEMBER 13-14, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO SUCH NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHERIES AT THE EARLIEST MUTUALLY AGREEABLE DATE,

3. FYI - DURING DECEMBER 13-14 DISCUSSIONS, GALLAGHER SAID THAT 3 MONTH PERIOD OF NON-ENFORCEMENT FOR US FISHERY OFF FRENCH GUIANA COULD BE EFFECTED WITHOUT FURTHER COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION AS INDICATED PARA 1 REFTEL. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WE WOULD NOT EXPECT ENFORCEMENT TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 1, AND DEPT. REQUESTS THAT MISSION CONFIRM THIS UNDERSTANDING WITH COMMISSION. END FYI. ROBINSON

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